**Rehabilitation Council**

999. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: SHRI MISA R. GANESAN;

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to gave statutory status to the Rehabilitation Council; and .....

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Rehabilitation Council of India Bill 1992, has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 6-3-92.

**Old People in the Country**

1000. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY;

Will the Minister of WELFRAE be plaased to state

(a) what is the number and percentage of old people in the country as per 1991 census;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide old age pension to all the old people;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a- Pro-, jected population of old people in the country-in: 1991-is. estimated at 5.48 crores which comes to 6.49 per cent of the total population of 84.39 crores as per 1991 Census.

(b) OM age pension' comes under the purview of the State' Government, All states and Union Territories are providing/ old age pension to the elderly (60) out of their own funds at different rates and co-verage depending on resource position of each State/U.T.

At present, there is no proposal to provide old age pension to all the old people due to resource constraints of the States;

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

**Rai Sikhs in Punjab**

1001. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question 705 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th March, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware ■,)( the notification issued by the revenue department Chandigarh (Government of Punjab) on 1st December, 1969 which was addressed to all the disrict and session Judges in. Punjab vide endorsement No. 5299-J dated 10th December, 1969;

(b) whether it is a fact that the above notification says that the 'Mahatamas' and 'Rai Sikhs' are substitutable; and

(c) if so. the reasons for not extending the facilities and benefits given to scheduled tribes to the 'Rai Sikhs' in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The above notification was issued in respect of Vimukat Jatis (Denotified Tribes) which have not been specified as Scheduled Tribes in Punjab. The provisions of Article 342 of the Constitution have not yet been invoked in relation to Punjab.

**National Conference of SC/ST MJPs.**

1002 SHRI. ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM; .Will, the' Minister, of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had received the resolutions passed in the National Confe-

rence of SC/ST M.Ps, forum held on 16th and 17th June, 1992 on political, social, economic and reservation aspects of SC/STs, if so, the action taken thereon till now;

(b) whether Government propose to call a meeting of "High Power Commit tee for active consideration and final de cisions in *the* matter;

(c) if so, the period likely to be taken for holding meeting of a High Power Committee; and

(d) if not-, the reasons therefor and what will be the other arrangements?

THL MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The various issues raised in the Resolutions adopted at the National Convention of SC and ST Parliamentarians and Legislators held On 16th and 17th June, 1992 require careful consideration in consultation with the concerned MmistrieslDepartmeflliB as also, in some esses, with the State Governments.

**Reservation for the handicapped in Jammu and Kastonip**

1003. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any quota has been fixed for the handicapped in the recruitment to the gazetted/non-gazetted services in lauimu and Kashmir;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to fix the quota for the handicapped in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI); (a) to (c) The information is being collected from Government of Jammu and Kashmir and will be laid on the table of the House.

**पिछड़े वर्गों का विकास**

**1004. श्री रामसिंह राठवा :** क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछड़े वर्गों के विकास के लिये सरकार की कौन-कौन सी योजनायें हैं :

(ख) इन योजनाओं के लिये क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किये गये थे और गत दो वर्षों में उसमें उपलब्धि का प्रतिशत कितना रहा है ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार पिछड़े वर्गों के तीव्र विकास हेतु कोई कार्यक्रम/अभियान चलाने पर विचार कर रही है ?

**कल्याण मंत्री (श्री सीताराम केसरी) :** (क) से (ग) सरकार ने अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिये अलग योजनायें आरम्भ की हैं । सामाजिक तथा शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े वर्गों के संबंध में भारत सरकार ने अपने कार्यालय ज्ञापन दिनांक 13 अगस्त, 1990 और 25 सितम्बर, 1991 के अनुसार भारत सरकार के अधीन सीधी भर्ती द्वारा भरे जाने वाले पदों और सेवाओं में सामाजिक तथा शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े वर्गों के लिये 27% आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की है । इसमें से प्राथमिकता सामाजिक तथा शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े वर्गों में आर्थिक गरीब वर्गों को दी जायगी । इसके अतिरिक्त सरकार ने आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़े लोगों के इन अन्य वर्गों के लिए 10% आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की है जो आरक्षण की किसी विद्यमान योजना के अन्तर्गत नहीं आते हैं ।

सामाजिक तथा शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े वर्गों के आर्थिक विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिये, सरकार ने कम्पनी अधिनियम, 1956 की धारा 25 के अन्तर्गत 200 करोड़ रुपये की प्राधिकृत हिस्सा पूंजी से एक राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग वित्त एवं विकास निगम की स्थापना की है जिसे लाभ न कमाने वाली कम्पनी के